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February 5, 2001

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTN: BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket: 31512-168230 RK

Inventor(s): Manfred DOMBEK

**Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INCREASING THE PERMEABILITY OF WRAPPERS
OF ROD-SHAPED ARTICLES**

Sir:

Please find attached hereto patent application. It is hereby requested that this application be accorded a filing date pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)(1). Enclosed are:

- 43 pages Specification, Claims, Abstract
 2 sheets of Formal Drawings
 Declaration/Power of Attorney
 Assignment, certified cover sheet and recordation fee.
 Priority is claimed under 35 USC 119 from German Patent Application No.100 04 908.7 filed February 4, 2000 (certified copy enclosed) and 100 04 906.4 filed February 4, 2000 (certified copy to follow).
 Information Disclosure Statement, PTO form 1449 with references cited.

Fees: (see formula below) Check Enclosed

Basic Fee:\$710.00

Recordation Fee:..... 40.00

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED FOR ABOVE APPLICATION.... \$750.00

In the event there is attached hereto no check, or a check for an insufficient amount, please charge the fee to our Account No. 22-0261 and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. _____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET

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